

**ELA TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING  
THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 2004  
7:30P.M.  
Village of Lake Zurich Board Room  
70 East Main Street  
Lake Zurich, IL  
Approved 5-13-04**

**1. Call To Order**

The regular Board meeting for April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2004 was called to order at 7:30p.m.

**2. Pledge Of Allegiance**

The Board led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. Roll Call**

Present: Supervisor Tinerella, Clerk Prouty, Trustees Black, Burch, and Sullivan. Also present were Assessor Hoffman, Highway Commissioner Kruckenberg and Senior Director Neuschel. Trustee Knudtson was absent.

**4. Public Comment**

**Al Froehde** of 230 Prairie Lane, Lake Zurich, Chairperson of Ela Area Sports Organization. Al Froehde implored the Ela Township Board not to buy more property, but instead put the money towards improving and completing playing fields on the land that has been donated to the surrounding villages, such as Deer Park, Kildeer, and Hawthorn Woods.

**Dennis Abbott** of Lake Zurich stated to the Ela Township Board that if you don't own these parks-don't spent Township money on them unless the Township is given the deeds to these Parks.

**David Diaz of LACASA** -was at the Ela Township Board meeting to answer any questions that the Board might have on LaCASA. The break down of Ela Township residents that have used LaCasa is included in the LaCasa's funding request.

**5. Approval of Meeting Minutes: Special Board Meetings 2/2, 3/5 and Regular Board Meeting of March 11, 2004**

Supervisor Tinerella's motion to approve the minutes of 3/5/04 Special Board Meeting and to table the minutes of 3/11/04 until the Clerk had time to confirm the Supervisor corrections, seconded by Trustee Burch. Roll Call: Supervisor Tinerella, Trustees Black, Burch and Sullivan all voted aye and the motion carried 4 to 0.

**6. Approval of Disbursement Audit 3-11-04 through 4-7-04**  
**Board Audit 03/11/04 to 04/07/04**

<b><u>GENERAL TOWN FUND</u></b>	<b><u>\$108,964.13</u></b>
<b><u>GENERAL ROAD FUND</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 6,215.58</u></b>
<b><u>PERMANENT ROAD FUND</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 16,361.58</u></b>
<b><u>PARK MAINTENANCE</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 24.86</u></b>
<b><u>TOTAL OF ALL FUNDS</u></b>	<b><u>\$131,566.15</u></b>

Trustee Burch's motion to approve the Disbursement audit of 3-11-04 to 4-07-04, seconded by Trustee Sullivan. Roll Call: Trustees Burch, Sullivan, Black and Supervisor Tinerella all voted aye and the motion carried 4 to 0.

**7. Approval of Line Item Transfers**

The line item transfers were completed at the April 1<sup>st</sup>, 04 Special Board Meeting.

**8. Monthly Updates from Elected officials (Township Supervisor, Clerk, Assessor, Road Commissioner and Trustees) and Department Heads (Senior Center, Youth Center and Bus Service) with updates given to the Clerk after the Meeting.**

**Supervisor's Report**

Township Youth Center has been in operation at the Foglia YMCA since March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2004. During the first month we had 35 middle school students join as members (\$5 fee) 21 boys and 14 girls. Friday's continue to be the most active day, because of the free pizza. The YMCA proposal/agreement with the Township was based on 50 students per day- presently we are averaging 12 per day on the most active days. This was our first month in operation so it will take some time to build up the membership. The YMCA has hired a new employee to head up the Township's and he starts in May.

**Expect a Miracle**

Working, Single Parents who are struggling due to lack of income to provide all the 'extras' for their children. Some examples of the assistance given are: park programs, camp fees, tutoring, organized sports fees and equipment, school activities, after school programs and many others. If you or someone that you know needs assistance for any of the above, please write to: The Carolyn Gable "Expect a miracle" Foundation, Attention: Debra, 1881 Rose Road, Lake Zurich, IL 60047. In your request, please write us a brief story about yourself and your child or children and what type of assistance that you are in need of. Please also enclose a copy of your most recent pay stub. Include a phone number of where you can be reached during the daytime hours and we will respond to your request as soon as possible.

**Salvation Army Camp –Summer 2004 Wonderland Camp**

Wonderland Camp is a great opportunity for children, ages 8-12. Children identified for camp must have some type of need, either financial and/or emotional. The camp is located 60

miles northwest of Chicago in Camp Lake, Wisconsin. The 140-acre camp offers the feel of the wilderness excursion with the fun and safety of well-organized activity program. There will be three six-day, five-night camping sessions (19-24 July, and 11-16 August). The fee is \$25.00 per child. Please stop by the Ela Township office to pick up an application.

Supervisor Tinerella expressed her concern about Trustee Knudtson attendance at Board meetings and he has only attended one Board meeting since the fall of 2003. Additionally he is residing outside of the Township. In January 2004 the other three Trustees indicated they wished to excuse all of his absences and not ask him to resign since the election is in sixteen months.

Supervisor Tinerella asked the Board to have Trustee Knudtson step down from his paid Township Trustee duties because of his attendance.

Trustee Black stated the Board members were trying to be understanding of what Trustee Knudtson was going through and it was sad that this was being brought up at this public meeting.

Trustee Burch stated that these were excused absences and Trustee Knudtson was involved in a sticky Court situation and this situation was winding down. And because of this situation he is not living in the Township but Trustee Knudtson still owns property in the Township and accordingly to legal Council he is qualified to serve on the Township Board. And this was discussed before and it is unfortunately that it has to come up again tonight. Trustee Knudtson would definitely resign if he thought he was not contributing to the Township Board and the very fact that he prepared the Funding requests in detail and it's the finest that has been done in years. And this shows that he has contributed to the Township.

Trustee Black stated that Trustee Knudtson has attended some Committee and Special Board Meetings.

Supervisor Tinerella stated that he has not attended any Special or Committee Board Meetings and the Funding Requests Document that he prepared was a simple three-column spreadsheet.

### **Road Commissioner Report**

Recycling will start the third Saturday of this month from 8:00a.m. to 11:30a.m. for paints, motor oil, household and motor batteries, and brush. This program was very successful last year and we have already received numerous calls on this program. This recyclable program is completely sponsored by the Highway Department and maybe next year the Highway Department will go for a social service grant to fund this program. We are working with SWALCO of Lake County in this joint venture and they have already reimbursed the Highway Department for some paint recyclable equipment that was purchased. This program was started in late June of last year and has been a huge success. The Highway Commissioner encouraged all Ela Township residents to take advantage of this recyclable service. This service is the third Saturday of every month from April to October. This program keeps waste off the roadways and makes for a cleaner environment.

Some Stormwater problems North of Knigge Soccer field and will be investigating the drain tiles with cameras and Highway Commissioner is sure that this problem is not caused by the improvements done to Knigge Park. This is approximately five acres that is under water and

am working with Lake Zurich and residents to solve this problem. Started our ditching around the Soccer field but having trouble because of wetness we need some dry days. Three fourth of the ditching is being done by Soccer organization and the Highway Department will be completing the rest of the ditching.

Trustee Black stated that the T.O.I. of Lake County is very interested in the Highway Department recycling program and would like the next scheduled meeting to be held at Ela Township Highway garage in July. The Highway commissioner is very agreeable to this meeting, but for personal reasons he would like the meeting scheduled in June. Highway Commissioner stated that Lake Zurich will be holding its first recyclable collection with SWALCO at Middle School North parking lot and this will take care of the Southwest portion of Lake County.

**Assessor**-No report, but the Assessor would like to know what happened to all the old cell phones that use to be at Township. Supervisor Tinerella said they have been picked up by older people and are being used to dial 911 in an emergency situation.

## **Trustees Reports**

**Trustee Black** stated that Ela Township was hoping to get an OSLAD grant to help with the purchase of land and the Governor is presently proposing putting the OSLAD program on a holiday until next year (because they are having budget problems) and they will also be laying off the staff that administered this program. Trustee Black believes that Ela Township should adopt a resolution requesting that the Governor not cut this program or lay off staff. Trustee Black has the resolution and she will make have it available at the next Board meeting to vote on.

At a Lake County Municipal League Meeting where the proposed changes RTA and Pace Bus systems were discussed. Representatives from the RTA were there along with Mathias who is on that Commission, and Adams who is the delegate to the Metropolitan Council of Mayors. Trustee Black received a packet of information on the proposed changes from the RTA and Pace bus systems and she has presented it the Highway Commissioner to make him aware of the upcoming changes.

**Trustee Burch** reported on the Flagpole installation at Knox Park by the Highway Department. An Eagle Scout did the base of this Flagpole. The Girl Scouts have asked the Township for some community projects and the Township is currently working with the Troop on beautifying the Parks by planting flowers. Trustee Burch has received quotes to add in ground lighting for the Flagpoles at the Ela hall and Knox Park and this will be discussed at the next Board meeting.

Trustee Burch stated that Boy Scout Troop 309 went over and cleaned up all the trash around the area of the new Veteran Monument

Trustee Burch encouraged all Ela township residents to attend the dedication of the War Memorial Monument at the Lake Zurich Police Station on Monday May 31, 2004. (Memorial Day)

**Trustee Sullivan** Stated that the new direct banking was in place and so far working well.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **9. Township Funding Requests for FY04/05- consideration and possible action to finalize funding dollar amounts.**

Trustee Sullivan suggested three changes in the funding requests.

1. Split the three thousand that was in the budget for Hospice. Fifteen hundred to Hospice and fifteen hundred to LaCasa.
2. Zero to Barrington Youth Services.
3. Cultural Arts Events \$5000.00

Trustee Burch and Black suggested combining Community Events and C.A.C. and having C.A.C. work with Ela Township Senior Director.

Senior Director Neuschel stated that she thought it would be better to keep the two organizations.

Trustee Black stated that with reduction \$34,471.30 in revenues to the Township, she believes that we should return to Social Services as recommended by Trustee Knudtson.

Trustee Black wished that there was money for all the agencies but there is not.

The Township should plan for the future and insure that when the lease is up at the YMCA, that we still have space available for the Township programs. Just preparing for this one important piece of the Township's future will consume most of our Township's revenue. Simply put-we just cannot afford the level of funding that we once provided in the past.

Supervisor Tinerella's motion to modify the 2005 budget numbers for Social Service Agencies and Community Services and to make the following changes and that is reducing Hospice from \$3000.00 to \$1500.00 and adding \$1500.00 to LaCasa and restoring \$5000.00 to Cultural Arts and it will be called Cultural Arts Events not Cultural Arts Connections on line item 582, seconded by Trustee Burch.. Roll Call: Supervisor Tinerella, Trustees Burch and Sullivan voted aye and the motion carried 3 to 0. Trustee Black voted nay in support of what Trustee Knudtson recommended in his funding request spread sheet.

Trustee Burch wanted to clarify line item 565 Explorer Scouts \$5000.00 will be used for safety equipment and not for salaries.

### **10. Township Budget for FY04/05-review, discuss, modify based on comments from the Public hearing and special Board meetings.**

Supervisor Comments on the budget.

Change in the property tax revenues to equal those numbers received from Lake County's Tax Extension Office. The amount of Tax dollars requested in the Levy had to be reduced due to the Tax caps and new construction values. The GTF had to remove \$37,471.30 and the road Funds had to remove \$56,206.95.

Last year the General town fund expended \$1.66M and had revenues of \$1.9M (this includes the \$315,000 transfer from the General assistance fund to the general town fund). The General Town Fund ended the year with \$2.6M in cash assets.

Based on the proposed budget for 2004-expenditures total \$4.8M (this includes \$3,000,000 in line items related to the acquisition of land for a 4<sup>th</sup> Township park).

The Road district expended \$1.2M last year and had revenues of \$800K (the road district continues in a deficit spending pattern as they spend down the surplus).Based on the proposed budget for 2004-we will spend \$1.2M.

Proposed Budget Changes from the Supervisor:

1. Remove the \$500,000 revenue line item for land loan
2. Change land line items to total \$2.5M (down \$500K from what is currently in the budget).
3. Adjustment to the Youth Department portion of the budget to pay for 1/3 of the maintenance costs from the YMCA monthly billings to the Township.
4. Website updates: add \$2000 to the budget and remove \$2000 from office equipment/supplies.

The Board agreed to #3 and #4- but not to number #1 and #2.

### **11. Park Sign and Flag Pole Lights-consideration and possible action to approve**

More information on the Sign and Flagpole lighting will be obtain and included at the May Regular Board Meeting.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **12. Township Employee Health Benefits-consideration and possible action to change current plan to reduce premium costs.**

Supervisor Tinerella statement on the Health Insurance.

After several meeting the Supervisor has decided that it would be better to stay with the Health Insurance Company that Township has now.

Based on preliminary information it appears we could save between \$18,000 and \$30,000 per year by changing our policy with Humana to a brand new program they just began to offer called "Premium Manager Plus".

The savings comes by increasing the deductibles. The plan is to take the savings from lower premiums and use them to offset the expenses of the higher deductibles, hence the employees would have the same annual out of pocket costs.

Action will have to taken no later than April 16<sup>th</sup> to change this year's policy to the Premium Manager Plus. Note our policy renews annually on April 1.

We should have a plan -to -plan comparison available by next Wednesday (4/14/04) for the department heads to review.

We can either call another Special Board meeting, or pass a motion now as follows:

Supervisor Tinerella's motion to authorize herself to implement the Humana Premium Plus Manager Health Care Plan based on approval from the Highway Commissioner and Assessor by April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2004, seconded by Trustee Burch. Roll Call: Supervisor Tinerella, Trustees Black, Burch and Sullivan all voted aye and the motion carried 4 to 0.

Assessor Hoffman stated why was not all the department heads included in on the meetings with these Insurance Companies.

Supervisor Tinerella stated that she would contact the Health Insurance Company and set up a meeting for the Assessor.

Trustee Burch would like Rape and Incest and Assault expertise to be required in the job description for the future Social Worker.

Trustee Sullivan asked to have Social Worker report to the Board.

### **At 9:27**

Trustee Black's motion to go into Closed Executive Session for the purpose of pending litigation, minutes, personnel/or land acquisition, seconded by Trustee Burch. Roll Call: Trustees Black, Burch, Sullivan and Supervisor Tinerella all voted aye and the motion carried 4 to 0.

### **13. Consideration to take action on closed executive session discussion items.**

No action was needed on closed session items.

### **At 9:35p.m.**

### **14. Adjournment**

---

**LUCY PROUTY ELA TOWNSHIP CLERK**